Notification No. G. 248—G. M. 133-06-2, dated 23rd October 1906.

The following translation of the Persian Passport Regulations which was published in Part IV of the *Mysore Gazette,* dated the 27th September 1900, is republished for general information.

2. Much trouble is frequently caused by persons proceeding to Persia without first providing themselves with passports duly visé-ed by a Persian Consular Officer. The special attention of the public is directed to the necessity for observing the Regulations in this respect.

3. The public are also warned that Mysore subjects contemplating residence in Persia should take with them documentary proof of their nationality, to enable them to be registered as such at the nearest British Consulate within one month of arrival in the country.

TRANSLATION OF THE PERSIAN PASSPORT REGULATIONS.

(HIS MAJESTY'S SIGNATURE.)

To His Excellency the Prime Minister.

Whereas matters connected with passports are not regulated by one set of rules or by proper arrangements, such as are observed in other countries, and therefore Persian passports are not recognized as formal in foreign countries; and whereas it has often come to pass that, owing to the absence of rules for matters connected with passports, subjects of this Government, who are residing in foreign countries, have lost the right of being considered as Persian subjects; and whereas (Persian) officials meet difficulties in restoring those rights to them; and whereas, in addition to the above, Persian subjects, when crossing and passing the frontiers, suffer oppression and much tyranny at the hands of petty officials, His Majesty the Shah has, in order to secure ease and repose to all the inhabitants of Persia and to regulate properly the matters connected with passports, decided that the contract system of issuing passports should be abolished, and that a principal Central Department for this work should be established at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; and that it should be conducted according to the regulations written in this pamphlet, so that the Government passports may acquire greater importance and consideration in the eyes of foreign countries, and Persian subjects may live in ease and quietness. Strict orders should now be issued that the Ministry for Foreign Affairs should, from the beginning of the new year and in future, abolish the contract system for all passports and carefully arrange and organize the passport work and establish a principal Central Department. Dated the month of Shawal 1317.

(SIGNATURE OF HIS MAJESTY THE SHAH.)

Observations.

1stly, in regard to passport regulations and the number of Persian subjects in foreign countries;

2ndly, in regard to the establishment of the principal Central Department for passports and office arrangement.

Section 1st.—A passport is to distinguish a Persian subject; and the object in issuing it to a traveller is that, when necessary, the Persian officials should help and strongly support the holder of the passport, and protect him, as far as possible, from untoward occurrences during his travels. Every Persian subject who wishes to travel to foreign countries, or desires to reside in them, should possess a Government passport; and Persian subjects cannot leave Persian territory without providing themselves with passports.

The Persian frontier officials shall prevent every Persian subject, who does not possess a formal passport, from leaving Persian territory.

A passport shall be given only to a Persian subject. It shall not be given to a foreign subject. Any person wishing to obtain a passport can do so by applying to the principal Central Department at Tehran. This Central Department is located in one of the branches of the foreign Ministry. In other parts of Persia the applicant will be referred to the Passport Department and its branches from which passports can be obtained.

Section 2nd.—A passport will not be given at Tehran to any persons, except those who are known to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or to persons bringing introductions from persons who are known to the Foreign Ministry. Otherwise the applicant for a passport should submit an application to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by a certificate from the "Hakim" of the city or town where he resides, or from the head of the Police Department.

In the frontier districts and other places, where no Government official exists, any person wishing to obtain a passport for travelling to other countries should obtain a certificate from the headman of the village or from any other well known person, on whom the passport official can rely, stating that the applicant is a Persian subject and is not a thief, rogue, or fugitive from law.

Government servants should obtain a certificate of leave from the head of the department in which they are serving, permitting them to travel.

Section 3rd.—Every Persian subject residing in a foreign country should obtain a passport from the Consul-General, or the Consul, or the Vice-Consul, or the Consular Agent nearest to the place of his residence, or in whose district he may be temporarily living or travelling.

The internal Persian Passport Department has no right to grant passports outside the limits of Persia to Persian subjects who may be residing in foreign countries or travelling from place to place in those countries.

Section 4th.—The Central Department will have a special Government seal; and all the passports will bear special numbers.

This Government seal is different from the State stamp, and should be attached to each passport, and all passports should bear the mark of the principal Central Department.

Every passport of travel or residence, which does not show on it the seal, mark and number of the principal Central Department, will not be accepted and will be considered useless and void.

Section 5th.—The period for which a passport will hold good is one year and an entry is to be made on the margin of the passport that, after the period of one year is over, the passport will become void.

If a Persian subject desires to return to his native country before the expiration of the year for which the passport is granted, he should present his passport to the Consul and get it visaed. This may be done without paying any fee, and he can then return to his country.

If a Persian subject residing in a foreign country should desire to return to his native country after the lapse of the year for which he holds a passport, he must show his passport of residence to the Consul, and obtain on payment of the usual fee a new passport.

If a Persian subject wishes to reside in a foreign country, he should renew his passport of residence at the beginning of each year. The usual fee must be paid on each renewal.

If any Persian subject residing in a foreign country fails to show his passport to his Consul, or fails to renew his passport of residence every year, double the usual passport fee will be demanded from him for each of the years during which he has resided in the foreign country without renewing his passport; and on his return to Persia he will be severely dealt with.

The Persian Government will inform all neighbouring and friendly powers that if the passport of a passport-holder does not show the mark and the number of the Central Department, and does not bear the State stamp as is required in Section 4th, his passport should be considered null and void.

If a Persian subject desires to remain in a foreign country, he should present his travelling passport to the Persian Consul, who may be nearest to the place of his residence. On payment of three Krans this can be registered in the Consul's office. The travelling passport should then be retained in the traveller's possession up to the end of the period for which it is granted.

After the lapse of the period he should obtain a passport of residence and hand over the travelling passport to the Consul.

Section 6th.—The fee for a travelling passport both in Persia or other countries is as follows:—

For Hajis, merchants and other travellers, three Tomans.

For laborers and artizans, two Tomans.

For the pilgrims to Kerbela and other holy places there, one Kran.

In foreign countries these fees should be recovered in the coin of those countries according to the rate of exchange for Krans of the day.

The fees for a passport of residence are as below. They should be taken in the coin of the country in which the receive of a passport resides according to the rate of exchange for Krans:—

	Tomans.
1st class	... 5
2nd „	... 3
3rd „	... 2

If a passport includes the names of a whole family, consisting, for instance, of a father, mother and children, who are all Persian subjects, a single passport is sufficient to denote that they are all Persian subjects.

The head of the family need only submit in writing the names of his children and of all other members of his family. Boys who have reached the age of puberty and servants—male and female—are excepted from this rule. They must obtain separate passports for themselves.

Passports of residence, which are given by the Persion Consuls annually, should be renewed in the beginning of each year, when the fee must be paid.

Section 7th.—The fee for "visaing" a passport for a traveller is 12 "Hazars" (Kran) and for laborers and artizans 4 Krans. If foreign subjects who enter Persia have their passport

duly "visaed" by a Persian Consul or a Chancellor, the passport officials or the frontier officials are not to demand any payment from them, but if the passports of such travellers have not been "visaed," if the traveller is a Turkish subject, a double fee shall be taken by the rule of reciprocity: but if he be a subject of any other friendly power, a single fee shall be taken from him and the passport "visaed."

The officials of foreign friendly powers, such as Consuls and Members of Embassies and Consuls and Members of Consulates and Plenipotentiaries of Foreign Powers, are exempted from the above regulation. They should on no account make any payment, provided they are travelling on Government service.

If the passports of Persian subjects, who are returning to Persia from foreign countries, have been "visaed" by a Persian Consul or Chancellor, the passport officials and the frontier officials are strictly prohibited from demanding from them any payment whatever on any reason or pretext. This prohibition extends to the taking of "Salamatana" (safe journey). If any official commits any such act contrary to these regulations, he will be called to account and severely punished.

If a Persian subject returns from a foreign country, and his passport be found not to bear the "visa" of a Persian Consul, the passport officials and frontier officials will recover from him 12 Krans and 3 Abbasis as the fee for "visaing" his passport and in addition a fine of 5 "Hazars."

PASSPORT DEPARTMENT.

Section 1st.—A Central Department called the Central Passport Department of Persia will be established at Tehran and located in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The head of this department will be responsible for all matters concerning the receipt of fees and issue of passports, whether in Persia or in foreign countries. That is to say, he will be responsible for all the revenue derived from this source. The head of the department will appoint and maintain officials at every city and town and in the frontier districts wherever he considers it necessary. The officials of the department will all receive salaries from the Central Department, and also travelling and establishment expenses which will be borne by the Central Department.

The principal Central Department shall keep reliable registers in which the passports issued will be entered in serial numbers. In the same way a register will be maintained of the number of passports of residence sent to each person residing in a foreign country, together with details and other particulars. The sums of money received from the Persian officials, Consuls and Ambassadors on account of passport fees shall be entered in the accounts of the Central Department.

Section 2nd.—Chancellors of Embassies or Consuls-General should send particulars to the Central Department every six months, including the number of Persian subjects, whose names have been entered in their books, and the number of passports which have been issued, and the reports which they have received from the Consuls subordinate to them.

All the above information should be submitted with the necessary explanations.

The Central Department will publish once a year a notice, mentioning the number of Persian subjects, who are residing in foreign countries.

In the event of a Chancellor or a Consul or an official of the Central Department wishing to leave his post before he has issued all the passports, which he has received from the Central Department, he should render an account of the passports and fees received to his successor, and handing them over to him should take his receipt for them.

Every Chancellor or Consul or official of the Central Department, when transferred from his post, should hand over the passports of residence and travel which he may have in his possession, together with the record book of passports, to his successor appointed to the same office. The newly appointed officer, after having duly examined the accounts, should sign the book and give a receipt for it.

In foreign countries, where Persian Chancellors exist, the Chancellors, and where there is no Chancellar, the Persian Consul will be answerable to the Central Department concerning all questions and discussions about passports.

Passports of residence and travel will be sent from the principal Central Department. They shall all bear the mark of the above Department, and shall not be accepted without the said mark on them.

Passports of residence and travel will be sent to each place and country required in sufficient quantities from the Central Department. In Persia they will be sent to the officials of the Central Department and in foreign countries to the Consuls. The appointment of passport officials will rest with the Central Department; they can appoint any person whom they consider suitable under fixed conditions and necessary guarantees, and depute him to any place to which they may think it necessary to send him.

Dated the 20th Shawal, 1317 H. Tanguz II (the year of the pig) corresponding to 1st March 1900 A. D.